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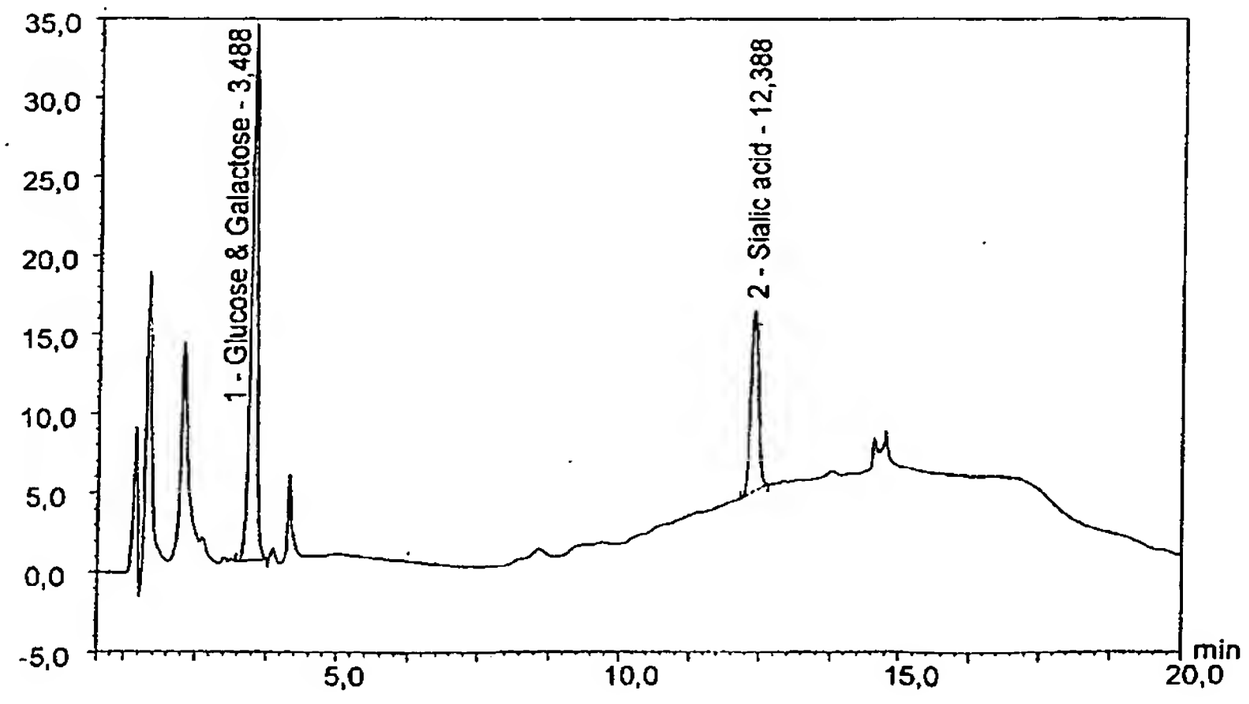
(54) Title: ANALYSIS OF SACCHARIDE VACCINES WITHOUT INTERFERENCE



(57) Abstract: The invention is based on methods that allow analysis of mixed meningococcal saccharides from multiple serogroups even though they share monosaccharide units. With a combination of saccharides from serogroups C, W135 and Y, the invention analyses sialic acid, glucose and galactose content. The glucose and galactose results are used to directly quantify saccharides from serogroups Y and W135, respectively, and the combined glucose and galactose content is subtracted from the sialic acid content to quantify saccharides from serogroup C. The three serogroups can thus be resolved even though their monosaccharide contents overlap. The three different monosaccharide analyses can be performed on the same material , without interference between the monosaccharides and without interference from any other saccharide materials in the composition (e.g. lyophilisation stabilisers). The method can be used to analyse total and free saccharide in conjugate vaccines and simplifies quality control of vaccines containing capsular saccharides from multiple serogroups.

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